

From: [John, Forrest](#)
To: [McCoy, Melinda](#)
Cc: [Evans, Diane](#); [Nelson, Russell](#); [Hubner, Matt](#)
Subject: FW: Red River Nutrient Criteria Next Steps
Date: Thursday, May 09, 2013 1:33:26 PM
Attachments: [Red River Water Quality Standards Next Steps and Adoption Final.pdf](#)

Melinda –

I got your email regarding your discussion with the TCEQ and the topic of the Red River next steps document. If you were have to asked me before I looked in my files, I would have sworn that I had cc'd each of the WQS coordinators on the Red River next steps email transmittal to the states but this was not the case and please accept my apologies for this glaring oversight.

Forwarded is the original email with the final Red River document. As you will read, I am asking for a Friday, May 17 response date. I've been able to contact both Texas and Louisiana to confirm that they will be responding but haven't been unsuccessful at reaching anyone in AR, NM, or OK...when I called no answer and simply left a message. I will try to make contact with these three remaining states tomorrow or Monday at the latest.

As a side note, in response to the region FY 2014 Section 106 Priorities, ADEQ responded that they don't consider the Red River a priority and will be focusing resources on waters in the Ozark Highlands. We were requested and did provide a response to Curry Jones on this and other topics but specifically to the Red River, we responded as follows,

The state has indicated that the utilization of the Red River project results to adopt appropriate nutrient criteria is not a priority but rather plans on focusing its limited resources on developing nutrient criteria for Exceptional Resource Waters, i.e., Ozark Highlands.

While we concur with the state prioritization of the Ozark Highlands being critical towards the developments and establishment of numeric nutrient criteria, to date, considerable resources, i.e., both federal and state dollars and staff time, have been devoted to the culmination of the Red River TN and TP criteria along the entire multijurisdictional main stem contributing long term solutions to the Gulf Hypoxia. Additionally, the Region recently proposed next steps toward the development and adoption of numeric nutrient criteria for the Red River with the vast majority of the work being funded and performed by EPA Region 6, e.g., evaluating current Red River chlorophyll a, TN, and TP thresholds, as developed by Haggard et al., to protect designated uses along the multijurisdictional main stem and downstream waters, with EPA effectively requesting staff time to review various products and the ultimate promulgation of the proposed criteria. Therefore, we consider the Red River TN and TP criteria project as critical and have an expectation for a commitment from ADEQ in their FY 2014 § 106 Work Plan to participate with the region and regional states to bring this project to a successful conclusion. Please advise ADEQ accordingly.

Cheers

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"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory or defeat." ~ Theodore Roosevelt

"...and 'tis our fast [first] intent to shake all cares and business from our age [of our state]; Conferring them on younger strengths, while we unburden'd crawl toward death..." ~ William Shakespeare's King Lear, Act I

"In every free and deliberating society, there must, from the nature of man, be opposite parties and...dissensions and discords;..." ~ Thomas Jefferson, 1798

From: John, Forrest
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2013 4:38 PM
To: 'jill.csekitz@tceq.texas.gov'; 'julie.mcentire@tceq.texas.gov'; 'gregg.easley@tceq.texas.gov'; 'amanda.vincent@la.gov'; 'steph.bradon@la.gov'; 'seva.joseph@state.nm.us'; 'kristine.pintado@state.nm.us'; 'wentz@adeq.state.ar.us'; 'wise@adeq.state.ar.us'; 'clem@adeq.state.ar.us'; 'jrchildress@owrb.ok.gov'; 'pmoershel@owrb.ok.gov'; 'maporter@owrb.ok.gov'; 'lswilliamson@owrb.ok.gov'
Cc: Crocker, Philip; Bira, Mike
Subject: Red River Nutrient Criteria Next Steps

Good Afternoon

At the joint EPA Region 6/States Water Quality Standards meeting on March 21, 2013, the Red River study results were summarized by Dr. Brian Haggard and discussed, along with possible next steps. The discussion was useful, but additional follow-up planning and discussion are needed to solidify next steps and reach agreement on a path to achieve the original goal of numeric nutrient criteria on the main stem of the Red River.

As a follow-up to the meeting, the Region agreed to outline next steps to further this effort. The attached document attempts to capture the ideas discussed at the meeting. We would appreciate your review and receiving input by Friday, May 17, 2013, on the next steps towards reaching agreement on a joint plan to complete this effort.

Sincerely yours,

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